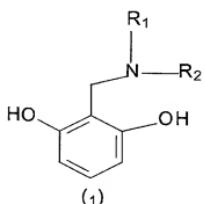


**ABSTRACT**

Couplers for hair coloring compositions for oxidative dyeing of hair are compounds of the formula (1):



where R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are each individually selected from a hydrogen atom, a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>3</sub> alkyl group, a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>5</sub> mono or dihydroxyalkyl group; phenyl or benzyl optionally substituted with an alkoxy group, or R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a piperazine, piperidine, imidazole, or morpholine ring.